SUNDAY, MAY 12, 1907.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid,		
DAILY, Per Month	50	50
DAILY, Per Year	6	00
SUNDAY, Per Year	2	00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year	8	00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month		70

Published by The Sun Printing and Publishing ciation at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of danhattan, New York.

Paris office, 32 Rue Louis le Grand.

tion wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

THE STUDY OF ORIGINS." "Roosevelt's Principles of Political Science"

From the New York Diamond, November, 1841 G. Vale, Editor, 84 Roosevelt street. [Mr. Clinton Roosevelt, who is an original

thinker and a writer of great ability, has lately published a work which I have not seen, but of which I borrow the following synopsis from an able review in the Boston Investigator: "Mr. Roosevelt proposes to organize society anew, and upon a thorough principle of cooperation in production and distribution; and at the same time to retain the individuality of property. He does not do away with the isolated family system and concentrate the community in one continual range of edifices. Hence he requires the equitable exchange system. He adopts the military discipline for the government of his community. He proposes that the agricultural, manufacturing and commercial departments shalf each be governed by a Marshal, with subordinates under them."

Mr. Roosevelt complains that the above gives the body but not the spirit of his system; he has forwarded to us the constitution of a of a social political work considerably sought after we choose to publish this as what may be agreeable to our readers.-G. V.1

EXTRACTS FROM THE "DECLARATION OF BOOSE WELT'S PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL SCIENCE," MADE BY HIMSELP.

"If discord prevail in society from the contests of self-interest in avarice and ambition, so must it exist forever unless genius and power unite to establish order, learning and happiness."

II. "In an army, every blow the soldier strikes and every shot he fires is as much to the advantage of every other member of the body of which he is a part as to his own gain and safety. In the meantime he has his own pay and share of the spoils to dispose of as he may prefer, without injury to others." III.

"If you let men alone, things cannot regulate themselves." IV.

\*As no knowledge can be self-existent in a created being, none can understand the art or science of government without opportunities for reflection or instruction. Few have such opportunities. The majority-which is constantly vacillating and contradicting its own decisions-cannot know what is for the greatest good of all." V.

"Necessity is superior to all constitutions VI.

"In the art of war the first object of a warry General is to throw his opponents into confusion; and each one on his own individual resources to be certain of a victory." VII.

"All should be soldiers when of a proper age, unless constitutionally weak or cowardly." EXTRACTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF THE

ORGANIZED ROOSEVELTIANS OF 1841.

"The style of this Association shall be the 'Eclectic Association, Creating Order.' " II.

"The objects of the Association shall be to feed the hungry and clothe the naked and a Dutch treat enterprise. make peace on earth and good will amongst men, according to Roosevelt's science of gov-

III. "No candidate shall be admitted as a member unless he bears a good moral character or if slandered can prove his innocence."

IV. "The trustees shall hold a general supervision for the good of the Association and report propositions of capitalists or land owners. They shall hold their offices until their trust is fulfilled, except they are impeached, die or withdraw from the Associa-

The Ambassadors From Skibo.

Are we not going too fast and too impetuously in our propagandas among the South Americans?

Soon after the dispersion of that excellent debating society which by an amusing and harmless euphemism was described as the "Peace Conference," it occurred to Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE to launch what he called a mission of conciliation, he to pay the expenses and his appointees to enjoy the emoluments, while the rest of the world relaxed itself in a perfectly respectful but perfectly hilarious chuckle. It really amounted to nothing more than a fresh demonstration of Mr. CARNEGIE's appetite for the rôle of Sir Andrew Bountiful, and ex-ploited anywhere among peoples speaking the English language and gifted with the Anglo-Saxon temperament it would have been welcomed with unaffected gratitude.

The fact that there are no international quarrels or heartburnings in South America, and the further and still more important fact that even if such quarrels and heartburnings actually raged it would be no business of ours to meddle with them-these circumstances would, under other conditions, have lent additional merriment to the already screaming bagatelle. The comedy, indeed, would have been as riotously funny as the late Mr. OFFENBACH's "Vie Parisienne" with l'Amiral Suisse as the distributing centre of the gayety. But Mr. CARNEGIE somehow overlooked the character of the people among whom he proposed to make his new parade of altruism, forgot the chance that they might take him seriously, and in consequence, not to put too fine a point upon it, has made a mess of it. Things would have been queer enough even if the "conciliation" committee had been composed of entirely unobjectionable persons. There is nothing to conciliate on the South American continent. Mr. CABNEGIE, however, not only launched his unin- the equestrian is subject to, the racking

tentionally comic propaganda, but committed the further eccentricity of appointing to that committee a Mr. MEN-DOZA, formerly Colombian Minister at Washington, who is persona non grata with his own Government, and naturally with every other Government in South America.

It is a small matter, of course. Mr. MENDOZA will not be received in Colombia or Venezuela, or for that matter in any other South American country. But how or why should this insignificant circumstance affect the complacency of the Laird of Skibo? The Government at Washington may not altogether enjoy the complication of absurdity, but Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, installed in the far off Highlands, revered by innumerable pensioners and beneficiaries, and so attired that he can scratch his illustrious legs at will-Mr. CARNEGIE will not so much as suspect that he has stimulated the ire of one continent and inflamed the hilarity of another.

South Americans may smoulder in their futile resentment, and the great men at Washington may wish that Mr. CAENEGIE had conferred a library on some other unoffending town and let it go at that. But the Laird of Skibo will have dispensed another roll of stage money, and the ointment of the gallery applause will be as lard and sulphur.

Rainbow Over Mulberry Street.

It was a splendid display of physical manhood that the New York police made as they marched past the only real chief they have had in many years.

Did it occur to these men, of whom New York is so proud in one particular and of whom the city, wants to be proud in every particular, that they were reviewed yesterday for the first time by a leader with the power to lead and that it was he, General BINGHAM, who opened the way for every individual of them to a finer distinction than the force has ever yet held?

That Ride Across the Continent. It is a great pity that Mr. HOMER DAVENPORT'S Arabian steed is too ill to begin the great journey across the continent just at present. Nevertheless, if the postponement should result in some organized form of competition we should be reconciled to that upshot in view of the enlightenment thereby bestowed upon us. The fact is that no reoord made by DAVENPORT'S Arabian alone would carry with it any special significance, since there has been no previous performance with which it could be compared. To announce that this or that animal had covered the distance in this or that number of days would be to announce nothing of practical importance. It might please Mr. DAVENPORT and furnish material for guesswork, but no useful purpose would be served.

Let us hope, therefore, that by the time the Davenpert Arab recovers its health some arrangement for a contest will have been completed. Already two or three if not more propositions have been made, but nothing serious has come of them. In each case, so we are informed, the applicant has withdrawn under fire of the prospect of having to pay his own expenses. Mr. Homer DAVENPORT monopolizes the proud if lonesome position of inviting a test his part in which he will finance out of his private pocket. But this delay may lead to something of larger interest. While the Arab is convalescing from appendicitis, or nervous prostration or whatever other fashionable malady it may labor under, Colonel CASTLEMAN of Kentucky or the Wyoming gentleman who wants to enter a mule against that fleet monarch of the desert may conclude to take the chances of snatching glory from

The Arab horse figures very largely in poesy and romance. We have all heard about Selim and Fatima, proud monarchs of the burning sands, with soft eyes and quivering flanks and widely distended nostrils, fleet as the winds. sure footed as the yearling tiger, inexhaustible as JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES'S flow of language, and patient as a Bryan audience. We read of them long years ago in our school books, and troubadours of every age and clime have sung of them to the passionate accompaniment of the light guitar, the rebeck or the lute. But it is by no means certain that the world has learned nothing new about horseflesh since the days of SALADIN and GODFREY OF BOUILLON. Very probably the Arabian barb is still the most picturesque and captivating of hoofed animals, but we may be permitted to imagine a beast of humbler lineage which, in a purely practical contest, can hold its own with credit if not with actual triumph against the scion of a thousand fourfooted kings. This is no question of a sudden flash of speed, of beauteous caracoling or of a single day's long drive for distance. It is a question of persistent, ground covering progress, day after day and week after week, with the goal two

And this is where our interest, guided by a quickened memory of past experiences, centres on the simple, unpretending mule. We should dearly like to have our Wyoming gentleman-or was it Arizona the papers mentioned?-enter the animal he speaks of. The mule does not lend itself to showy prancings in the park, to gaudy pageantry on educated Eastern roads or prowess in the polo field. Neither is it to be depended on for charging full into the cannon's belching mouth or any other suicidal nonsense. But if one has some hundreds of miles to go as a continuous performance and would get there safely, surely, with a maximum of physical and mental comfort and a minimum of risk of accident, the genuine saddle mule, gaited, trained and duly accustomed to his task, stands in our philosophy as the ideal vehicle. You are good for seven or eight miles an hour. To all intents and purposes you do it in an easy chair. There need be no fear that your steed will step into a hole, breaking his leg and incidentally your neck. The mule sees dangers many yards ahead and avoids them with unerring skill. Stick to your mule and you need fear no species of catastrophe. You move easily and swiftly, and you need never apprehend that worst of all fatigues

thousand miles or more away.

exhaustion of a wornout horse. Your mule will take good care of that! Mr. HOMER DAVENPORT may make the ride alone. We hope not, however, for it will prove absolutely nothing.

The Cabinet and Its Master.

Ti fuss made over the postponement of a Friday Cabinet meeting by the President because he wanted to ride out to Rock Creek Park with Captain FITZ-HUGH LEE and be photographed in the perilous act of putting Blenheim over the hurdles implies a painful ignorance of the status of a Cabinet officer and the object or use of a Cabinet. The Hon. JAMES BRYCE was not astonished. He says in his "buke," which is so well known and thumbed that really it needn't be named:

" One cannot properly talk of the Cabinet apart from the President. An American Administration esembles not so much the Cabinets of Engiand and France as the group of Ministers who surround the Czar or the Sultan or who executed the bidding of a Roman Emperor like CONSTANTINE or JUS TINIAN. Such Ministers are severally responsible to their master and are severally called in to counsel with him, but they have not necessarily any relations with one another nor any duty of collective action."

Mr. BRYCE also observes that the President "cannot avoid responsibility by alleging the advice of his Ministers, for he need not follow it, and they are bound to obey him or retire." Mr. BRYCE of course made no discovery. These things are fundamental. If the President prefers to have his pictures taken on vaulting Blenheim to sitting at the head of the Cabinet table and submitting to the ordeal of hearing his Ministers talk he can dismiss them by telephone on any sunlitaFriday in the year. As a matter of fact the law does not recognize Cabinet meetings; they simply grew like Topsy; no official record is kept of their proceedings, and they amount to some thing or nothing according to the stamp of man who is President.

This leads us to say that although Mr. BRYCE does not share the popular impression that a Cabinet meeting is a fixture and it is very daring or eccentric for the President to be absent from a Friday gathering, Mr. BRYCE is not so happy in dealing with the American system of coordinate government, and particularly with the President's part in

it. For instance he says that "the President and his Ministers have no initiative in Congress, little influence over Congress," &c.; and again, that "there is a risk that executive vigor and promptitude may be found wanting at critical moments."

At the time the distinguished Ambassador wrote his book there was warrant for these philosophical conclusions. But times and the President have changed. Mr. BRYCE is learning and revising every day, and being a man of wit he must be enjoying the sensation. The book will need a lot of interlining, and the blue pencil will have to go through whole paragraphs. Perhaps he may decide to rewrite the chapters entitled "The President" and "Presidential Powers and Duties.'

"Hoosier."

Since Indiana became the centre and very omphalos of American literature, as it had long been of American politics. a connotation of fondness clings to the good word "Hoosier." JAMES BYRON ALBERT JEREMIAH BEVERIDGE: to name them is to praise. The roll of Hoosiers of credit and renown is longer than the Wabash. Yet night impenetrable still shrouds the cradle of that high vocable. In a recent publication of the Indiana Historical Society Mr. JACOB PIATT DUNN collects and collates the documentary history or legend. So far "Hoosier" has not been traced further back than the Indianapolis Journal of January 1, 1833, when it appeared in a carrier's address, "The Hoosier's Nest," by JOHN FINLEY, written in 1830. The spelling in the manuscript copy is "Hoosher," and the word is in quotation marks. An extract will demonstrate the permanence of the political instinct and the multifarious activity of the Hoosiers:

While hosts of Preachers, Doctors, Lawyers, All independent as wood sawyers. With men of every hue and fashion Flock to this rising ' Hoosher ' nation Men who can legislate or plough. Wage politics or milk a cow-So plastic are their various parts Within the circle of their arts. With equal tact the ' Hoosher ' loons Hunt offices or hunt raccoons. A captain, colonel, or a 'squire, Who would ascend a little higher. Must court the people, honest souls He bows, caresses and cajoles, Till they conceive he has more merit Than nature willed he should inherit, And, running counter to his nature, He runs into the Legislature; Where if he pass for wise and mute. Or chance to steer the proper chute, In half a dozen years or more He's qualified for Congress floor."

The word "took." A toast at a Jackson day dinner in 1833 was "The Hoosher State of Indiana." In August the prospectus of the Greencastle Hoosier was published. In 1834 Mr. FINLEY was called "the poet laureate of Hoosierland." Guessing at the origin of the word had already begun, and folk etymology was at work. Such is the explanation, attributed to the Kentuckians, that "Hoosier" comes from "Who's vere. the cry of the log cabin Indianian when approaching a neighbor's. As a matter of fact, that cry was "Hallo the house!" According to another guess, Colonel JOHN JACOB LEHMANOWSEY, a soldier under Napoleon, and afterward a settler in Indiana and a lecturer on the Napoleonic wars, begot the word:

" When the young men of the Indiana side of the Ohio River went to Louisville the Kentucky men boasted over them, calling them 'New Purchase Freenies,' claiming to be a superior race, compos of half horse, half alligator, and upped of with snapping turtle. These taunts preduced fights in the market house and streets of Louisville. On one occasion a stout bully from Indiana was victor in a fist fight, and having heard Colonel LEHMANOW ser lecture on the 'Wars of Europe,' who always gave martial prowess to the German Hussars in a fight, pronouncing hussars 'hoosiers,' the Indianian, when the Kentuckian cried 'Enough, umped up and said: 'I am a Hoosler,' and hence the Indianians were called by that name."

Dates smash this theory, apart from

Polish officer pronounce "hussar" "hoosier".and put the new term into circulation. Mr. James Whitcomb Riley's barroom and mayhem theory "Whose year' is just as tenable. In 1860 a contemporary of FINLEY's said that he first heard the word, then pronounced 'husher"-"u" as in "bush"-in 1824, 1826 or 1827. It was synonymous with 'half horse, half alligator." Between 1829 and 1831 the sound "hoosher" was established. Of course, phonetic recollections of thirty years back are doubtful. Another strange etymology is "huzza," from the habit of Indiana flatboatmen at Southern levees of jumping up and cracking their heels together and yelling "huzza," "whence they were called

huzza boys." Mr. DUNN shows that "hoosier" in Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, Missouri, means "a countryman," "a rough countryman." Thus Indianians in the South are sometimes horrified. An Indianapolis woman writes:

"While visiting Columbia, S. C., I was walking one day with a young gentleman, and we passed a rough looking countryman. 'My! what a hoosier,' exclaimed my escort. 'That is a very noble term to apply to such an object,' I said. 'Why so?' he nquired. ! Why. I am a Hoesier-all Indiana people are,' I answered. 'Oh! We do not use it in that sense here," he rejoined. ! With us oosier means a jay."

Mr. DUNN is sure that " 'Hoosier' carries Anglo-Saxon credentials," but he has hard work to find them. No admirer of Hoosier literature will see any relation between "hoosier" and the English verb "hoose":

" It is used now to denote a disease common to salves. The symptoms of this disease include staring eyes, rough coat with hair turned backward, and hoarse wheezing. So forlorn an aspect might readily suggest giving the name 'hooser' or 'hoosier ' to an uncouth, rough looking person."

Calves, forlorn, hoose, hoosier: never and a day! If the word is English it must come from "Who's Who," mainly a record of Hoosiers. The English dialect word "hoozer," "anything unusually great," is also helpful. Mr. DUNN is an accommodating etymologist. He mentions as "a possibility" the Indian word "huzur," "a respectful form of address to persons of rank and superiority" and "howsha," a village authority in Bengal. If Indiana be of East Indian stock, these theories may serve.

If we might presume to enter so learned a discussion we could name, besides the excellent working hypothesis "Who's Who," the undoubted but hitherto unmentioned parent of "Hoosier." It goes back to the French occupation. "Hoosier" in its first state was haut Sieur. A parentage that befits its high fortune. Diligent search will reveal the proofs.

Metz the Disturber.

Comptroller METZ thinks that the city should exercise common sense in buying supplies, make purchases in large quantities through one agency, and get all the advantages to which large consumers are entitled. A few taxpayers will applaud him for this, while a majority of them pay no attention. Meanwhile, certain sales agents, manufacturers and dealers in articles used by the city, who now enjoy remunerative trades with it. will be disturbed until they are convinced that his suggestions will have no practicable results.

Under the present lack of system the city is enabled to pay the highest prices ELMORE, CHARLES WARREN FAIRBANKS, for the most unsatisfactory goods. Profits that could not be realized in dealings with private concerns may be obtained by venders who are "in right." The unfortunate merchant who has only goods of high grade to sell at reasonable prices is pretty likely to be shut out. Besides splitting up its business into the largest possible number of small transactions, the city surrounds each with red tage to an extent that frightens off all but the most knowing bidders.

Is it too much to hope that Mr. METZ's recommendations will receive serious consideration from the city government? Are they too radically intelligent, too disturbing, too entirely sensible to command the approval of any municipal administration?

Politeness is evidently not a matter of travel and intercourse, for Dr. Sven Hedin nas found in the lamas of remote and secluded Tibet the most courteous people in the world. Writing from Shigatse under date of February 20, 1907, he says:

"The Tashi Lama, PANCHEN RIMPOCHE, received with really kingly hospitality. Some lamas and members of the jong were ordered to be at my service in every way. I have been talking with the Great Lama for hours and hours, and I have ound him to be one of the most remarkable and charming men I have ever met in life—a man whom one can never forget. \* \* The days I don't see him personally he sends and asks how I am setting on. \* \* I have perfect liberty and can go wherever I like in the great gompa, and all the \$,800 lamas are extremely polite and nice to me."

Extreme politeness from 3,801 hosts must require a reciprocal expenditure of tact which only an explorer of Dr. HEDIN's vitality could command. The asterisks in the passage quoted represent details of the bully time the doctor had at Shigatse.

No deadlier pit for a man's reputation

can be digged by one's friends than the average laudatory obituary notice. Yet in the case of the late ALBERT HENRY SMYTH we feel that too little, rather than too much, has been said and written. His death is a distinct loss to American letters: for his friends a personal grief that will not be soon assuaged. He united to a profound scholarship an open mind and an unusua sympathy for English literature. A gradnate of Johns Hopkins, he early occupied the chair of English at the Central High School, Philadelphia. He was cosmopolitan by temperament; at whatever mahogany he sat he was a welcome guest. His memory was almost appalling. He literally knew Shakespeare by heart. (He was the founder and editor of Shakespeariana.) There are few such adequate biographies as his, in the American Men of Letters series, of BAYARD TAYLOR. Even before the forties of his life he had contracted friendships rare and enduring with distinguished men on both sides of the Atlantic. He was a member of a famous English club and was on terms of intimacy with Algernon Charles Swinburne. THEODORE WATTS-DUNTON, the venerable JOSEPH KNIGHT, the late Professor YORKE POWELL, HORACE HOWARD FURNESS, WILL-IAM WINTER and many others. A thoroughly human, affectionate man, he met his fate like the stoic he was; he knew that his life was condemned a year ago, yet he never betrayed his secret in his work. The "Life and Letters of Benjamin Franklin," which he edited for the MACHILLANS, was a labor the ingenuous absurdity of making a of love and will be his enduring monument.

President Roossver never displayed finer tact than when he sent SMYTH as the representative of the United States to the veiling of the Franklin statue in Paris last year. A brilliant orator, SMYTH outdid himself on that memorable occasion, and the graceful performance of the French Government in bestowing upon him the Legion of Honor decoration was no perfunctory official act, but a recognition of the solid merits of the scholarly American. ALBERT HENRY SMYTH possessed a pretty wit. His characterization of Mr. Roose-VELT as "a Viking in a turn down collar" will endure.

Washington heard on November 13, 1904, that General Kuroki had been killed in one of the great battles in Manchuria, and General CHAFFEE, Quartermaster-General HUMPHREY and other army officers were interviewed about his ability as a soldier. In reading their appreciations to-day one sees that they were not well informed about Kuroki's services as a commander. Having come in the flesh to Washington the little Japanese General could probably tell our army officers how his victories were won, but we don't suppose he will. The great Russo-Japanese was was not well reported by either combatant, and to this day the Japanese have maintained a studied reticence about their military successes. It must be hard work entertaining a hero like KUBOKI, who won't talk and doesn't look the part.

A PUBLISHER'S PLAINT.

No Tariff Concessions Needed by the Germans, Who Already Undersell Us. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Already is the German exploiting our market. A lithographer who is alive to the situation and the possibilities of the game is now here offering to sell picture insets for books printed in eight colors, which he agrees to land here

three color plates. When the export price at the point of shipment and not the price exacted in the home market is hereafter to be taken as the basis of appraisement, what earthly chance will

at lower prices than we can produce our

market? All the picture books coming to this coun try will hereafter be made "expressly for export," and on those lines of publication the market is practically in the hands of the Germans. Paper is cheaper, presswork and binding are much cheaper, and the element of freight is relatively nothing. Under the new ruling there is nothing to prevent Tauchnitz from underselling the fiction publishers in the older and competitive lines.

I would very much rather know that my dollars were drifting to Buffalo or Boston than be forced to buy marks to forward to Nuremburg and elsewhere; but if the other fellows are going to possess the market of course there is nothing for me to do but follow the crowd, which seemingly doesn't care a concrowd, which seemingly doesn't care a continental where the work goes if there is a cent a book saved on its manufacture.

We are not selling our books in Germany. That fact cannot be too strongly impressed upon our publishers. They will by and by awake to the realization of what they have practically given away when they find, as they assuredly will, that our market is slipping away from them. We want all the work we can do here.

can do here.

Paper during this year has advanced one cent a pound on the lowest grades of book paper, but as the money was going to our own people we did not make any strenuous protest, believing that it would be returned

own people we did not make any strenuous protest, believing that it would be returned to us in enlarged sales.

If "Big Six" and the "Lithographers' Union" had properly minded the interests they were created to preserve, they would have forgotten their sympathy parades for the "undesirable citizens" in the mining regions and given some attention to the undesirable citizens that have just landed in their German horse. We have taken a buzzard for our turkey. To my thinking the whole ridiculous concession is made for political effect and to curry favor with the German vote. The President was at one time a special partner in a publishing house here, but he has forgotten or the exigencies of his position force him to forget what he was supposed to have known about the publishing business. If it advances "my policy" I dare say there is nothing for it but acquiescence.

Uncle Joe, the Illinois favorite son for the next Presidestial nomination, may always be depended upon to further with zeal and efficiency any concessions that will operate for the benefit of the Chicago lard interests. It is surprising that there was no Congressional Representative sufficiently wide awake to foresee and to understand what these German concessions must eventually mean.

New York, May 10.

J. M. C.

man concessions must eventually mean.

NEW YORK, May 10.

J. M. C.

SCALPERS AND OTHERS.

The Experience of a Writer of Fiction With an Honest Business Man.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Con cerning the discussion in THE SUN about publishers, "unsophisticated," "scalpers" and otherwise, it may interest you to hear from "real" author who has had a book pub ished by paying for the service.

I am the author, and it is only fair to my publisher to report that he is not to be numbered, so far as my experience goes, in either of the classifications above. I paid \$300 for the publication of a sovel of 350 pages, which was bound in fine silk cloth, gilt stamped, illustrated without extra charge to me by a New York artist, and lo! I received 250 copies free. I have made it my business to inquire and I find my publisher printed 1,000 copies and bound 500. He has advertised my book in his catalogue, widely circulated, in all the New York papers, at cash cost, and pays me something over one-third of the receipts

something over one-third of the receipts from sales.

I own the copyright and the plates—real live plates packed in boxes, too. My book was printed in the best book printing house in New York and bound in one of its best binderies—both near the "bridge." I am well satisfied. As for sales they haven't been great—but my publisher did not guarantee to make big sales. Now, if any one will please tell me what is wrong with a transaction of this sort, into which an author goes with both eyes open, I would like to know.

Most unpublished writers have prodigious vanity. Some of them have money. If they want a pair of shoes they go and pay, for them. If they want a book made—why, they go and pay for its making. All they need be concerned about is to find an honest publisher, who will do what he says. It is no one's funeral anyway if an author wants to see his name in print.

New York, May 10.

The Mystification of Finn Hoop. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I asked Po-liceman 373 at the Brooklyn Bridge to-day if I could "get a car here for Fulton avenue, Brooklyn." He looked at me as if sorry for my ignorance, and in a basso profundo voice said "No." Then I re-peated the question, but said street instead of venue, and in the same voice he said "Yes" curtly Has he just been reduced? I managed to get on the bumper of a car just pulling out. I asked the merchant on whom I called to straight-

en me out on the avenue and street business, and he said: "The lower end is called street and the upper end, where they put on airs, is called 'ave-noo.' " Coming back I asked the conductor and he said: "They are two distinct thoroughfares."
These people ought to get together on this business
I am from Macon, Ga. FINN HOOP, Late Corporal Lost Cause

NEW YORK, May 10. A Sorehead. Knicker-How do you think a horseshoe sh

Bocker-By the neck until dead. We Are Seven. I met a little village maid. With eyes as blue as heaven.

I asked, "How many may you be? She answered, "We are seven. "An anti-Roosevelt family we. A state of things quite dire

"Four lusty brothers have I got. All honest, true and merry; One is an Undestrable. One a Reactionary.

"Another one is not the Type To be the nation's model; And oh, the latest ukase says One is a Mollycoddic.

My mother is a Llar.

"Then I myself a Weakling am, That rounds the tale of seven And though depised upon this earth We still have hopes in heaven." THE COST OF LIVING.

Washington, May 11.—The Department of Commerce and Labor has issued a bulle-tin showing the wholesale prices of a considerable number of staple commodities from 1890 to 1906. The work is in a way quite superfluous. No American house-holder needs to be told that it cost more to live in 1906 than it did at any time during the seventeen year period covered by this publication. The question which particularly interests and concerns our householders has more to do with getting enough money to meet the increase in prices of

food, clothing and rent. The figures submitted by the Department of Commerce and Labor are based on the wholesale prices of 258 commodities which enter more or less directly into the daily use and consumption of the community It appears that within the period covered by the report 1897 was the year of lowest prices and 1906 the year of highest prices. The cost of living in 1906 was 36.5 per cent. higher on an average than it was in 1897, but it was only about 9 per cent. higher than in 1890. From 1890 to 1897 there was a constant reduction of the average. Since that year there has been a steady

It is of interest to note that while the average price of all the articles of food inbluded in the tabulation is materially higher in 1906 than it was ten years earlier it is practically the same as it was in 1890. The verage prices of house furnishing goods, although ranging lower during the intermediate years, were no higher in 1906 than in 1890. Drugs and chemicals were about 10 per cent. cheaper last year than they were in 1890, but even physicians and apothecaries will admit that man cannot live on drugs alone in an effort to economize. Comparing the lowest years of the term with 1906 the greatest increase appears in the tems of metals and implements, and lumber and building materials.

The compilers of the report have taken

the average prices for the ten years 1890 to 1899 inclusive as their basis, and they use 100 as the standard for comparisons On that basis the average prices of lumber and building materials stood at 90.4 in 1897 and at 140.1 in 1906. Metals and implements stood at 86.4 in 1898 and at 185.2 in 1906. Farm products were 85.2 in 1897 and 123.6 in 1906. Food was 83.8 in 1896 and 112.6 in 1906. Cloths and clothing were 91.1 in 1897 and 120 in 1906. The list shows eleven articles which in 1906 were 100 per cent, or more higher in price than the average for the ten years used as a standard It shows increase in the price of 189 articles included in the tabulation, and decrease in forty-one articles Flour, sugar, tea and coffee are cheaper, while meat, fish, lard, bread, butter, cheese, eggs and milk are dearer. Kerosene is dearer and candles are cheaper. A few lines of cotton goods have decreased, but most have increased Barbed wire, putty, quinine and glass tumblers show lower prices, while steel rails, bricks, all kinds of lumber, opium, bedroom chairs and plug tobacco have gone up.

These pages of statistics are immensely nteresting to those who are interested in them, and they effer occupation for any number of hours. They do not, however, give the slightest help toward finding or making the dollars with which to meet the increase shown so clearly and with so much elaboration.

WEEMS AND LINCOLN. The "Life of Washington" Referred to at

Trenton in 1861.
To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I was very much interested in a letter in THE SUN of May 8 describing the find of an old copy of Weems's "Life of Washington," a book that derives unusual literary and historical interest from the fact that it was one of the ormative influences in the character of Ahraham Lincoln

As I read the account of Washington's rebuke to Lee on the battlefield at Monmouth is as great an enigma as any ever propounded; it suggested the address made by Lincoln to and the fact of itself explains nothing as to it suggested the address made by Lincoln to the Senate of New Jersey, at Trenton, on February 21, 1861, on his way to his first in-In that address he said: augural. May I be pardoned if, upon this occasion, I men-ion that away back in my childhood, the earlies

days of my being able to read. I got hold of a small book, such a one as few of the younger members have ever seen.—Weems's "Life of Washington." I remember all the accounts there given of the pattleficids and struggles for the libertles of the ountry, and none fixed themselves upon my imagi nation so deeply as the struggle here at Trenton.
The crossing of the river, the contest with the Hessians, the great hardships endured at that time, all fixed themselves on my memory more than any single Revolutionary event; and you all know. for you have been boys, how these early impres last longer than any others. I recollect thinking then, boy even though I was, that there must have been something more than common that these mer struggled for. I am exceedingly anxious that that thing—that something even more than national independence; that something that held out a great promise to all the people of the world to all time to come—I am exceedingly anxious that this Union, the Constitution, and the liberties of the people shall be perpetuated in accordance with the original idea for which that struggle was made, and I shall be most happy indeed if I shall be a hum-ble instrument in the hands of the Almighty and of this His almost chosen people for perpetuating th

It is a rare treat of the imagination to think of the boy Lincoln pondering this old volume by the light of the cabin fire, and to reflect upon the part it had in building up the ideals of freedom which make Abraham Lincoln the master spirit of all that is truest and best in HARRY DOUGLAS ROBINS. NEW YORK, May 11.

Alaskan Notes. The Boston Alasken, a monthly devoted to the in terests of Alaska, says that a copper mine on La Touche Island, Prince William Sound, was recently sold for \$3,000,000 to the Rothschilds. All th United States paid for Alaska's 600,000 squa The Alaska Marble Company at Shakan shipped

2,500 tone of marble to Puget Sound last year.
Copper deposits of great richness have been found in the vicinity of White River, which flows partly through American and partly through British territory. Development is being begun on the American side.

The Amalgamated Copper Company spent \$30,000 a month last winter for freighting material and supplies from Prince William Sound into the rich cop per region of the interior. Point Barrow, Alaska, is Uncle Sam's farthest point north. A letter from Indianapolis to Point Barrow goes first by train to Seattle, 2,500 miles; then by ocean steamer to Valdez, 1,600 miles further north and west; then by dog sleds, over ice and

snow, 2,700 miles more to the north and west letter travels in one direction 6,800 miles, all the distance in American territory. With the aid of steam heat and electric lights vegetables and flowers are being grown in Pair-

banks, Alaska.

Middleton Island, in the Gulf of Alaska, near longitude 146 and not far from the entrance to Prince
William Sound, is becoming known as a garden
spot. Last winter there was no snow and grass was green every month. Seward, Alaska, is to have a copper smelter of

500 tons dally capacity. During 1906 mineral discoveries and develop-ments in southern and central Alaska have made great progress. The copper field of Prince William Sound has been shown to be a bonanza district, and it is likely to become one of the wonders of the world. The Seward Galeway says in a recent issue

Copper ore worth \$1,785,016 was shipped from Alaska in 1906, nearly three times as much as in 1 905.

and seven times as much as in 1904.

Coal lands on Graham Island, ninety miles from Ketchikan, are being opened up.

The British Yukon, it is said, will exhibit two hundred varieties of flowers at the Alaska-Yukon exposition to be held in Seattle in 1909. infringement? American goods to the value of \$14,875,274 we

American goods to the value of \$14.875.274 were sent to Alaska in 1905, an increase of more than 28 per cent, over the shipments of 1905.

There are 180 camps and roadhouses in Alaska provided with telephones, in addition to many business bouses, residences and cabins situated within the limits of the larger camps. The main exchange is at Neme. Skarway and Whitehorse are connected by telephone.

THE PUZZLE OF EVOLUTION. To What Purpose Is the Struggle Onward

and Upward If the End Is Extinction? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In one of his letters to THE SUN Goldwin Smith says: "On the mind of a student of history is deeply impressed the sadness of its page; the record of infinite misery and suffering, as well as epravity, all apparently to no purpose if

the end is to be a physical catastrophe."

The record of misery and suffering which sistory presents is not only inexplicable on the inaccountable on any hypothesis. Not only on the hypothesis of final oblivion does human misery, revealed in the struggles of history ppear to no purpose. The office of suffering cannot be divined, assuming the existence of an overruling Providence. For on the assumption of a supremely powerful and supremely beneficent Providence the em-ployment of evil agencies to bring about ultimate harmony is unaccountable. Indeed, on the most optimistic view that the suffering incident to human progression ultimately effects beneficent ends the resort to contrivance to bring about conditions that might have been primarily instituted if there be an all powerful Providence remains incapa-

ble of explanation.

Thus not only is history a melancholy record of futile struggles, when looked at from the standpoint that all must end in meaningless oblivion, but it is an appalling spectacle to all who would find in life evidence of those attributes of supreme power and supreme beneficence which men are wont to scribe to an author of the world.

Professor Smith concedes the evolution of man's physical nature but intimates that if the higher realms of morals and intellect are to be accounted for on a physical basis, as evolution undeniably implies, the plight of men is indeed dismal. He disputes the valid ity of tracing such faculties as idealization and moral conscience to physical sense. He admits-I assume—the development of organio from inorganio nature but sees in man's moral and intellectual nature evidences of higher workmanship than the operations of purely physical processes.

If Professor Smith concedes that the evo-

lution of organic life on this globe up to the moral and intellectual faculties of man has been naturally effected he has found no difficulty in admitting a startling fact, which is that the intelligence, affection and unde-niable exhibitions of reasoning powers, latent intellectual and moral faculties dis played by animals have all had that material origin which Tyndall properly declared to be the potentiality of all life.

And with respect to conscience, while it might well make even a Kant marvel, yet its origin is far from supernatural. The moral sense was not inherently implanted but arose through the expediency of following the right, generally conducive to the welfare of men collectively and individually.

Men generally array themselves with the intuitionists who say that the moral sense was inherently implanted in man and supernaturally given, not gradually developed by It may be admitted that men to-day act

more instinctively than according to calcu-lations as to the beneficial or detrimental effects on general happiness of a proposed But in the moral sense, which many mistake for intuition, is to be seen the inherited effects of long continued adherence to right prompted by its favorable effects on human welfare; the moral sense does not appear to have had a supernatural or unac-

countable origin.

It might be added that with respect to intellectual processes Mr. Goldwin Smith will not dispute that it is a fundamental truth of that much abused study psychology that even the most abstract faculty could have on existence in the mind unrelated to some concrete object of experience; and hence idealization may not only be asserted to be traceable to physical sense but it could have experience.

Moral and intellectual faculties were naturally developed; they were not specially implanted in man in some way not reducible to law and explanation. The inevitable admission that man's higher faculties equally with his physical nature were materially evolved does not reduce the ultimate mys-tery or in the least strengthen atheism. That inert matter could by imperceptible changes have been the cause of human intelligence add to or detract from matter would imply its eternity

But to revert to the original proposition; not only on the assumption of final catas-trophe should history prove to be a sad record of futile events but it is a melancholy spectacle whatever the assumption

An aeronaut once declared that the petti ness of human strife and concerns is deeply impressed on the mind upon overlooking the earth from a distance. From such an elevation can be properly estimated the true worth of those paltry honors and distinctions which mortals so covet. To what end is it all? Men are born, sail across life and are relentlessly overtaken at last by time. Life, the entity, continues, while its individual constituents are changed. Poetry, art and music continue to delight, while new eyes and ears constitute the ever shifting audience. If the world should suddenly be minated would any great design have been

subverted? Darwin asserted that the thought of the loss of personal immortality was more bearable to him than the thought that the beauties of art and music must become irretrievably lost when this globe becomes too cool to

support life. The question that has made history a melancholy spectacle not alone to the philosopher of our day seems to be one destined to remain unanswered: To what purpose was the drama of history, with its record of struggles and turmoils through which man advanced to more desirable physical and political conditions ever enacted, if such conditions might have been primarily instituted without the intervening struggles? NEW YORK, May 11.

Saint of Elba.

From the London Telegraph.
On the Island of Elba there lately died a man named Melani, who, although a millionaire, had for many years lived as a guest in a peasant's family. He had, it seems, completely lost his memory, and had certainly forgotten that he was so rich. He always lived as a poor man, passing his time in meditation and prayer, so that the fishers of the island regarded him as a saint. M. Melani bequeathed everything he had to his kindhearted hosts, who, as can easily be under-

stood, were surprised beyond measure when they heard how rich their former guest had been.
At Pistoja, in Tuscany, M. Melani ozned a mag incent mansion, which had been kept closed since 1856. On opening the house after the owner's death it was found that all the furniture and artistie objects had disappeared, nobody knows how of

Population of Rome.

when.

From the Westminster Gazette. According to the last general census of 1901 the resident population of the whole province of Rome was estimated at 1,142,526, and the fluctuating popuation, Italian and foreign, at \$4,383. The increase since the annexation of Rome to the Italian King dom in 1871 has been very considerable. At that dom in 1871 has been very considerable. At his time the aggregate population amounted to only 836,704, so that within the comparatively short period of thirty years the inhabitants of the province have increased by fully 305,822.

According to the above census the number of foreigners in Rome in 1901 was 9.885, the Germans numbering 1,844, the British 1,739 and the French 1,886. The population of Rome is stated to be

520,196. Gyroscope Petentialities. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT with great interest the reports of the marvellous work of Mr. Brennan in applying the gyroscope to railroads. You will, I am sure, pardon me for pointing, but isn't that what a Certain Personage appertaining to the White House has been trying so do! And isn't Mr. Brennan's apparatus

cation of said gyroscope to the Certain Personak' would tend to increase his ability to maintain a sore perfect balance? WILMINGTON May 11.

On the other hand, do you consider that the apr

Exception.

Mrs. Enicker—Has she clothes for all climates?

Mrs. Booker—Yes, except the one her husband contions when he gets the bill.